Oil Palm Plantation in Karnataka

2300. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank aided scheme to grow oil palm trees in Karnataka is in progress;

(b) if so, the cost of the scheme;

(c) the places where the scheme is under operation;

(d) whether the Government propose to include some more places under the scheme in Karnataka; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM CHANDRAN) (a). No Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

New Oil Development Projects

2301. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new oil refineries sanctioned recently;

(b) the total demand to be met thereby; and

(c) the places where those refineries are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR):(a) to (c). Government have approved setting up of a 0.5 Million tonnes per annum crude distillation unit at Narimanam, Tamilnadu and a 3 Million tonnes per annum Oil Refinery at Mangalore.

Lifting of Ban on Sale of Kesari Dal

2302. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a request from the Academy of Nutrition Improvement, Nagpur, for lifting of ban on sale of Kesari Dal;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering the request;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA CHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The matter of lifting of ban on production and sale of Kesari dal has been examined in detail in this Ministry in consultation with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and ICAR. Looking into all the aspects of the problem, it has not been considered desirable to lift the ban. However, ICAR is making efforts to develop suitable varieties of Lathyrus (Kesari dal) with low Neuro-toxin (BOAA) content.

[*Translation*]

Compensation for Acquisition of Land for Bottling Plant of IOC at Panki, Kanpur

2303. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether full compensation has been paid to the land owners by the Indian Oil Corporation for acquiring the land to set up its bottling plant at Panki, Kanpur;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether one member from each affected families has been given job; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which members of the affected families are likely to be given jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). The full share of the compensation to be borne by IOC have been paid to Kanpur Development Authority from whom the land was procured.

(c) No such assurance was given by IOC at any stage.

(d) Does not arise.

Unauthorised Mining of Sand Stone in Bijonia, Rajasthan

2304. SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large scale unauthorised mining of sand stone patties is being carried out at Bijonia in Bhilwara District of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the number of cases of unauthorised mining detected so far;

(c) the extent of damage done and loss of revenue and environmental hazard created by such unauthorised mining;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop this unauthorised mining; and

(e) the number of licences for operating these mines granted so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Supply of Pig Iron to Foundry Units

2306. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the production of pig iron in the country;

(b) the estimated demand of pig iron for foundry units in the country;

(c) whether these units are facing crisis due to short supply of pig iron; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to tide over the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Production of pig iron in 1990-91 was 14.93 lakh tonnes.

(b) Total estimated demand of pig iron, including for foundry units, in 1990-91 was 18.30 lakh tonnes.

(c) and (d). Domestic production is not sufficient to meet domestic demand. Import of pig iron had been placed under Open General Licence in March, 1990.

[*Translation*]

Marketing of LPG in Jaisalmer

2307. SHRI SURESH ANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: